

ACN Solicitation
Industry Day Questions/Answers
March 13, 1998

MDA972-98-R-0006

1. Is the Time Variant Magnetic Flux Antenna (TVMFA) a receive-only antenna technology in the near-term (2-5 years)?

ANSWER: No. Prototype TVMFAs have demonstrated both receive and transmit functionality.

2. How will DARPA provide proven technology to ACN Contractors? Should Phase I include transition of DARPA and other “embryonic” technologies to the level of maturity required for a capabilities demo?

ANSWER: The Contractors are responsible for choosing, maturing and obtaining technology needed for the capabilities demo. To support the transfer of information on the DARPA-sponsored technologies, the ACN program will establish a technical exchange process to review DARPA programs and disseminate technical information to the ACN contractors. The process will include frequent Technology Exchange Meetings (TEMs) to facilitate information dissemination.

3. Is the fixed price proposal for 10 prototypes to be given at the end of Phase II or is it submitted concurrent with the Phase II proposal?

ANSWER: The irrevocable fixed price option for 10 production units is submitted as part of the Phase II proposal. The Contractor sets the parameters and conditions that support the fixed price option.

4. The frequency compatibility chart shows HF as an ACN capability. Is HF a “threshold” requirement on the ACN program?

ANSWER: No, the chart is only provided for illustration of the complex frequency environment.

5. Will the military radios that ACN must interoperate with be provided GFE? If not, why not?

ANSWER: Some limited GFE is available at Government facilities such as the CECOM DIL (see web page link). Use of these resources requires that you bring the functionality to be tested to the Government facility.

6. Are we supposed to bid both Phase II and Phase III now, or only Phase II?

ANSWER: You are proposing for the Phase I award. That proposal should include what you envision as the final (end of Phase II) capability.

7. If a downselect is done at Phase I CDR will the remainder of that Contractor's \$7.6 M be made available for use by the remaining Contractors?

ANSWER: Each team will continue to work according to the milestones/schedule/funding called out in their agreement.

8. How is the Government going to correct the friendly-fire situation? Will it be or can it be tied to the ACN?

ANSWER: While friendly fire is not within the scope of ACN, Contractors are free to propose solutions to communications problems within the scope of the ACN, but beyond the solicitation goals.